



**CHESTER LE-STREET
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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6, RED ROSE TERRACE,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

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**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR 1964**

—○—

J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

CHESTER-LE-STREET R.D.C.

*With the
Compliments of
Dr. J. L. Siddle*

*Health Department,
6, Red Rose Terrace,
Chester-le-Street.*

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**ANNUAL REPORT
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Medical Officer of Health
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**J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health**

**MEMBERS OF HEALTH AND GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE, 1964**

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CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
6, RED ROSE TERRACE,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

To the Chairman and Members of the Chester-le-Street Rural District Council.

8th November, 1965.

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1964.

Examination of the main statistics shows that, compared with 1963, the Birth Rate increased, and the Death Rate fell, whilst the Infant Mortality Rate showed an unfortunate rise.

There was one more death from tuberculosis than in 1963—four as compared with three. Notifications of infectious disease were drastically reduced because of a fall in measles cases.

Efforts to raise housing standards have continued with 64 houses condemned during the year, and 55 new Council houses erected. Improvement grants for existing homes lacking amenities showed an increase, bringing the total grants since the commencement of the scheme to 890 (£1 in every 9 private houses).

The introduction during the year of Meals on Wheels and Luncheon Club Services for the elderly marked a further stage in the care of the aged in the community.

The numerous and varied fields of the Public Health Department continued to occupy the Public Health Inspectors, with the added responsibility during the year of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued help and support, and also the staff of the Department for their efforts and enthusiasm during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant

J. L. SIDDELL,
Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—(Joint Appointment with U.D.C.
and Durham C.C.)

J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS—

CHARLES W. ROBSON, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I. and Certificate in
Meat Inspection of the R.S.I. (Southern Area).

ROBERT REID McDougall—M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., R.P., Certifi-
cate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—

HUGH F. L. DAVIES—M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Certificate for the
Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—

ANTHONY WILLIS.

CLERICAL STAFF

OLIVE ROUGHLEY

VICTOR MOORE

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

		1931	1963	1964
Area (acres)	..	26,925	22,226	22,226
Population	..	52,991	43,090	43,590
Persons per Acre	...	1.97	1.90	1.90
Inhabited Houses	...	12,026	13,936	14,225
Rateable Value	..	£173,350	£1,256,181	£1,359,066
Penny Rate Product	...	£635	£1,828	£5,263

* Registrar General's mid-year estimate including members of the armed forces stationed in area.

Further closures of Collieries in the district mean that coal-mining, which was the basic industry in the district, is being replaced by other types of work.

Factories are developing of various types, to provide work, and Birtley in particular is becoming each year even more important as a centre of industry. With the development of factories in certain areas the importance of the small mining villages becomes diminished, and they function only as places of residence for persons travelling outside to their work.

The population of the district continues to rise, mainly by the influx of persons who prefer a semi-rural place of residence, to the congestion of Tyneside and Wearside, where they have been employed.

Area

The area of the Rural District remains unchanged at 22,226 acres.

The density of the population for the year being 1.90 persons per acre.

TABLE I
BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1964.

Based on Registrar-General's Provisional Figures	Rate per 1000 Home Population	Rate per 1,000 Still Births	All Causes	Acute Poliomyelitis and Poliocercosis	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	T.B. (All Forms)	Influenza	Coryza	Cancer of Lung	Total deaths under one year	Live Births (Registered)	Rate per 1,000	
													Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Home Population.	
England and Wales	... 18.4	16.4	11.3	0.00	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.02	2.25	0.54	20.0		
Durham County	... 18.3	19.9	10.9	0.00	0.60	0.01	0.00	0.06	0.03	2.04	0.49	22.9		
Chester-le-Street R.D.	... 18.3	20.0	10.0	0.02	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.02	2.13	0.41	28.8		

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population for 1964 was 43,590.

The estimates for the past 10 years are given below:—

						<i>Reg. General's Est. population</i>
1955	...	...	...	...	...	41,160
1956	...	...	...	...	...	41,160
1957	...	...	...	...	...	41,120
1958	...	...	...	...	...	41,240
1959	...	...	...	...	...	41,550
1960	...	...	...	...	...	41,890
1961	...	...	...	...	...	41,240
1962	...	...	...	...	...	41,980
1963	...	...	...	...	...	43,090
1964	...	...	...	...	...	43,590

The figure given for the 1961 Census was 41,169.

Births

There was a slight rise in the Birth Rate as compared with 1963. Total live births were 751 for 1963 and 798 for 1964.

Live Births:—

Legitimate: 419 male, 343 female.	Total	762
Illegitimate: 16 male, 20 female.	Total	36
	(4.5% of total births)	
	Total Births	798

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	18.3
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Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 population	18.1
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Still birth (7 female, 10 male). Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	20.0
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Deaths

TABLE 2

The number of deaths during 1964 was 437, compared with 502 for 1963. The crude death rate being 11.7 for 1963; 10.0 was the figure for 1964.

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGE IN YEARS.									
	All ages		75 &							
	M	F	5	15	25	35	45	55	65 over	
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	12	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	10
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	17	1	—	—	1	—	—	8	6	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .	—	6	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	16	16	1	1	1	3	8	8	7	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Diabetes	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	28	30	—	2	1	—	1	6	14	34
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	60	33	—	—	1	1	6	23	35	27
Hypertension with Heart Disease	10	13	—	—	—	—	1	3	8	11
Other Heart Disease ...	20	16	—	—	1	2	2	4	11	16
Other Circulatory Disease ...	9	7	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	12
Influenza	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia	11	14	3	—	—	—	—	4	10	8
Bronchitis	17	8	1	—	—	1	3	5	6	9
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	4	0	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Congenital Malformations ...	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	17	20	15	1	2	—	2	6	4	?
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	1
All Other Accidents ...	9	0	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	4
Suicide	7	1	—	—	—	1	4	3	—	—
Total All Causes ...	257	180	25	6	10	11	36	84	121	144

TABLE 3

The following were the chief causes of death during the year.

		1963		1964	
		No. of deaths	% of total deaths	No. of deaths	% of total deaths
1.	Diseases of heart and circulatory system ..	255	50.8	226	51.7
2	Cancer	89	17.7	78	17.5
3.	Acute respiratory diseases.	69	13.7	55	12.6
4.	Violence (7 road traffic deaths, 9 other violent causes, 8 suicide) ..	15	3.0	24	5.4
5.	Tuberculosis (all forms) ..	3	0.6	4	0.9

Chief Causes of Death

The distribution of causes of death shows much the same pattern as for previous years:

1. The main cause of death continued to be diseases of heart and circulatory system—51.7% of all deaths come into this group. There were 93 deaths recorded as being due to coronary disease.
2. Deaths from cancer showed little change, being 17.5% of all deaths. Cancer of lung showed 17 male deaths and 1 female.
3. There were 4 deaths from tuberculosis—all males, and all in the over-55 age group.
4. Deaths from violence almost doubled from 15 in 1963 to 24 in 1964. Of the 24 deaths, 7 were road accidents, 8 suicide, and 9 due to other accidents. These figures indicate once again the preventive action necessary, not only in connection with road accidents, but also those in the home and at work.

Infant Mortality

Deaths under one year of age numbered 23—the figure for 1963 was 17. The Infantile Mortality Rate was 28.8 The figure for England and Wales was 20.0 and for Durham County 22.9

	Infant Mortality		Perinatal	Neonatal	Still birth
1954	35	38.7	24.3
1955	51	35.3	26.0
1956	29	35.7	16.8
1957	38	52.8	27.2
1958	33	46.4	28.5
1959	37	53.7	25.5
1960	22	34.7	13.3
1961	23	33.9	13.1
1962	20.9	27.1	14.4
1963	22.6	49.0	18.6
1964	28.8	41.7	21.3
					20.8

Infant Mortality Rate for a district: The number of deaths in that district of infants under 1 year of age, calculated per 1,000 live births.

Still Birth Rate: The number of still births expressed per 1,000 total births (live and still births).

Neonatal Mortality Rate: The number of deaths in infants under 4 weeks of age, expressed per 1,000 live births.

Perinatal Mortality Rate: The combined still births and deaths in the first week of life, expressed as a rate per 1,000 total births (live and still births).

Infant Death Analysis

Of the 23 deaths of children under one year of age, 17 took place within one week of birth. Of these 17 deaths, 11 were due to either prematurity or congenital defects, and these figures demonstrate once again that the major problem to overcome in order to achieve a fall in the infantile mortality is prematurity.

Of the diagnosis given, and without further investigation, it would appear that 5 of the infant deaths could be classified as 'preventable'.

TABLE 4
INFANT DEATHS ANALYSIS 1964

Cause of Death	Age at Death						Deaths under 1 year			
	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 months	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	
Pneumonia	1	1	1	...	3	
Bronchitis	1	1	...	...	1	
Congenital Malformation	...	2	...	...	2	...	1	...	3	
Gastritis	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	
Accidents	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	
Haemorrhage	...	4	...	...	4	...	...	...	4	
Prematurity	...	9	...	...	9	...	...	...	9	
	
	
	
	
TOTAL	17	2	3	1	...	33

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(1) Laboratory Facilities

In June, 1956, the Public Health Laboratories were transferred to the New Institute of Pathology, which was built in the grounds of the General Hospital to house the hospital pathological laboratory, the Blood Transfusion Service, and the Public Health Laboratory. The Director is Dr. J. H. Hale.

(2) Local Health Authority Services

The Administrative County is divided up into twelve areas. Chester-le-Street Urban and Rural Districts forming No. 4 Area. For each area, a Health Sub-Committee has been appointed to exercise on behalf of the County Health Committee, certain functions relating to services under the National Health Services Act 1946.

All day-to-day administration of the County Service is carried out by County Headquarters. The Assistant County Medical Officer deputises for the County Medical Officer of Health at quarterly meetings of the Area Sub-Committee.

(a) Health Visitor Service

There are 5 Health Visitors employed by the County Council working in the Chester-le-Street Rural District. A survey of the work done by them is given below:—

Visits paid to:—

Maternity and Child Welfare	...	...	...	...	8213
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	266
School Work	...	...	...	...	815
General Health	...	...	...	...	315
Mental Deficiency	...	...	...	...	316
Aged People	...	...	...	...	1469

Summary:—

Ineffective Visits	...	...	...	...	...	1319
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	12718
Number of effective visits	...	...	...	...	...	11399
Time (as days) spent on visits (Routine, other and ineffective)	...	...	...	...	...	544
Average daily number of effective visits per health visitor	...	...	...	...	...	20

Clinics, etc., Work:—

			<i>Time (as days)</i>	
				<i>Spent:</i>
(a) at Maternal and Child Welfare Centre	24 ^t
(b) at Chest Clinics and contact sessions	30
(c) at School Head to Head inspections	21
(d) at School Clinics	Nil
(e) at School Medical Inspections	10
(f) at Special Schools	4
(g) at Nursery Schools	5

(b) Clinics

In the rural district during the year the County Council had 3 clinics which were utilised in connection with local health authority services in the district. In some cases the clinics held in the Urban District are more convenient for certain of the rural district inhabitants so that these have been included in the table show.

Address of Centre	Sessions
Hexham Villa, Birtley. Telephone No. 52	Child Welfare ... Fridays weekly. Birth Control ... Alternate Monday afternoons. Post-Natal and Ante-Natal ... Vaccination and Immunisation . Alternate Monday mornings Dental Clinic ... 1st and 3rd Friday afternoons 1.30 — 2.30. Ultra Violet Ray. Friday afternoons weekly
Mains Farm House, West Lane, Chester-le-Street. Telephone No. 3286.	Child Welfare ... Tuesdays weekly. Ante-Natal ... Alternate Wednesday mornings. Birth Control ... Alternate Wednesday Post-Natal afternoons. Ultra Violet Ray. Monday afternoons weekly. Health Visitor Clinics ... Alternate Thursdays. Health Education and Relaxation Classes ... Monday afternoon weekly.
Miners' Welfare Hall, West Pelton.	Health Visitor Alternate Wednesday Clinics ... mornings. Child Welfare ... Alternate Wednesdays
Old Relief Office. Front Street, Sacriston.	Child Welfare ... Alternate Wednesdays.

(c) *Welfare Foods*

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

National dried milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamin tablets are distributed from centres in the area as shown.

<i>Address of Centre</i>	<i>Sessions</i>
Hexham Villa, Birtley. Tel. No. 52 Old Relief Office, Front Street, Sacriston	Alternate Mondays and Fridays weekly, 10.0 a.m. to 12 noon and 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. Alternate Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1.30 to 3.30 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, Perkinsville	Tuesday: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, West Pelton	Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Post Office, Great Lumley	Every day, 9.0 a.m. to 5.0 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, Kibblesworth	3rd Wednesday every month : 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Chester-le-Street, Mains House, West Lane.	Tuesday & Friday all day
Church Hall, Fatfield	Alternate Wednesdays 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

(d) *Domiciliary Midwifery & Home Nursing Services*

The following statements give details of the work done and the staff employed:—

15

STAFF	NEW CASES				VISITS PAID				HOME NURSING
	Medical		Surgical		Medical		Surgical		
6 District Nurses 2 District Nurse Midwives plus 2 Vacancies for D.N.M.	Infectious Diseases		Tuberculosis		Infectious Diseases		Tuberculosis		
584	190	1	32	3	17707	5100	41	2549	19
Total new cases: 710	Total visits paid: 25926								
					+Patients over 65 years				
					+Visits to Patients over 65 years				
					+Patients under 5 years				
					+Visits to patients under 5 years				
					+Visits for injection Only (all ages)				

¶Included in total visits

+Included in total new cases

MIDWIFERY

Staff	Midwifery Cases	Maternity Cases	Hospital Discharges
3 district midwives			
2 district nurse midwives	236	25	173

plus 2 Vacancies

F. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

ANTE-NATALS

CHILDREN

Centres.	No. on books		No. on books Years of age		Attendances Years of age		
	1/2	2/5	0/1	1/2	2/5		
Birtley ...	11	41	172	208	262	2149	508
Sacriston ...	—	—	98	81	142	836	188
West Pelton. ...	33	116	97	81	112	615	163
							151

BIRTH CONTROL

POST NATAL

ULTRA-VIOLET RAY

Centre.	No. on books		No. on books		No. on books	
	Attend- ances	Attend- ances	Attend- ances	Attend- ances	Attend- ances	Attend- ances
Birtley ...	51	154	3	3	21	136

(e) Ambulance Service (including Chester-le-Street U.D.C.)

The Chester-le-Street Rural District is served principally by the ambulance depot situated at Osborne Road, Chester-le-Street. This depot has an establishment of 1 Depot Super, 11 Driver-attendants, and 6 vehicles. The depot operates from 8 a.m. — 8 p.m. Monday to Friday; 8 a.m. — 4 p.m. Saturday, and is closed on Sunday. The remainder of each 24 hours is now covered by vehicles from the Durham, New Herrington or Stanley depots. Overall control is exercised by a central control at Durham where, by a system of direct telephone lines and radio, close supervision is kept on vehicles operating in all parts of the county, thus enabling any area to be reinforced as necessary.

All requests for ambulance transport in the area are made to the central control at Durham, where a 24-hour service is maintained. Tel. No. Durham 3421.

The following table shows the work undertaken by the Chester-le-Street depot during the year, but it should be noted that these figures will include patients from areas other than the Rural District and that the conveyance of patients residing in the rural district is not restricted to the Chester-le-Street Depot, but may be undertaken by vehicles from other depots passing through the area.

No of Journeys	Patients Stretcher	carried Sitting	Total	Mileage
5226	1493	20403	21896	106903

(f) *Domestic Help*

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies.

Domestic Help cases during 1964:

Cases attended 1/1/64	...	...	...	...	276
New cases during year	...	...	...	...	134
Cases terminated	...	...	...	...	104
Cases attended on 21/12/64	...	...	...	...	306
Number of Home Helps employed 31/12/64	...	...	...	...	153

Number of cases provided during year:

(a) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	...	9
(b) Tuberculosis	...	1
(c) Chronic sick (including aged and infirm)	...	368
(d) Others	...	32

(g) *Prevention of Illness Care and Aftercare*

Under this section of the National Health Service Act the Durham County Council supply nursing requisites on loan to those needing them. A fee is charged, the assessment of which depends on income and the type of article borrowed. All the articles are stored in Durham City and have to be brought out to the place where they are required.

(h) *School Health Service*

The School Health Service is run by the Durham County Council from the headquarters in Durham City.

The clinic for the bulk of Chester-le-Street Rural District school children is in Birtley. The clinic is open daily and is attended on Monday and Wednesday by a School Medical Officer.

Routine medical inspections of children are carried out in the schools by a School Medical Officer.

(3) Hospital Services

The population of the district is in the main dealt with by the Durham Group of Hospitals.

None of the hospitals is sited in the Rural District but the General Hospital and Infectious Diseases Hospital are in the adjoining Urban District of Chester-le-Street.

(4) Executive Council Service

The executive council for the County of Durham is responsible for the administration and general management of the Family Practitioner Services in the District.

The Practitioner Services include the Family Doctor Service, the Dental Service, the Eye Service, and the Pharmaceutical Service, all of which provide the patient with the individual medical attention that he needs.

(5) Health Education

The emphasis continued to be on the direct approach to the many members of the public who are met by the Health Department Staff.

Support was given by means of posters and leaflets to various national campaigns.

The booklet " Better Health " was distributed as in previous years.

Lectures were given on aspects of health to organisations, use being made of the film projector available from the County Council.

Hostel Accommodation (Part III) National Assistance Act, 1948.

This is provided by the County Council. There are no hostels in the Rural District, the nearest being in the adjoining Urban District of Chester-le-Street.

Meals on Wheels

The Council during the year started a Meals on Wheels service for aged persons who were housebound.

The County Council agreed that the school central kitchens at Birtley and Sacriston could be used to provide the meals and, in addition, agreed to pay half the initial cost, and half the running costs of the service.

Voluntary help from the W.V.S. and Red Cross has consistently provided the assistance necessary to make the service run smoothly.

In order to extend the service a second van was ordered towards the end of the year.

During the year 3,154 meals were delivered to the homes of aged and infirm persons in the district.

Luncheon Clubs

The Council's aim to help aged persons were furthered during the year by the introduction of Luncheon Clubs to various parts of the district.

By the end of the year four such Clubs were going strongly, and others were in preparation.

The Luncheon Club idea is to provide hot meals for aged persons, giving priority to those living alone, and especially to old men living alone.

The County Council agreed to pay half the initial cost and half the running costs of the various schemes. The recipients of the meals are charged 1/- per meal.

Voluntary help was available in all cases. The various voluntary bodies concerned are too numerous to list here, but it has been a pleasing aspect of the clubs that voluntary helpers have been so keen to help.

At the four clubs functioning during the year there were 3,106 meals supplied.

Accidents in the Home

The Accident Prevention Committee has in the past included consideration to Home Safety matters. During the year it was decided to establish a Sub-Committee to deal with prevention of Accidents in the Home.

No meetings of this Sub-Committee have, however, been held by the end of the year.

Chiropody

Further schemes for the provision of treatment for elderly persons at certain centres were commenced during the year, so that by the end of 1964 almost all of the Rural District was covered.

These schemes are run by voluntary organisations with the aid of a grant from Durham County Council. It is gratifying to note that such voluntary help is still forthcoming, especially when it is needed for services for the elderly.

The County Council decided during the year that where possible the small charge which had been made in most cases should be withdrawn. In all schemes in the district the voluntary organisation agreed to co-operate so that at the end of the year no charge was being made to the old people for this service.

Plastic Bags

The danger of children being suffocated by playing with plastic bags has been of concern to the Public Health Authorities for some time.

During the year a firm collecting old clothing in this district was found to be leaving plastic bags at each door.

In an effort to prevent this method of collection the Council approached the Home Office, but found that all that could be done was to ensure that the bags were of the correct type of plastic, with the appropriate number of airholes.

Other matters which received consideration during the year:--

1. Surgery facilities of General Practitioners.
2. Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies.
3. Caravan sites.
4. Half-way Houses for the Elderly.
5. Accommodation on problem and homeless families.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water

Water is supplied to the district by three water undertakings: Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co., Sunderland and South Shields and Durham County Water Board.

Regular sampling of the supplies by the Public Health Inspectors gave the following results:—

		Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Ministry of Health's recommendation	... ...	50 + %	80 + %	100%	0
Samples	Durham County Water Board	26 (72%)	2 (78%)	7 (97%)	1
Sample other undertakings	16 (72%)	2 (82%)	2 (91%)	2	

In each case where a sample did not come into Class 1, any action necessary was taken, and in all cases subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

3. Public Cleansing

This service has continued satisfactorily during 1964.

4. Inspection of the Area by Public Health Inspectors

Again nuisances under the Public Health Act have been largely abated by persuasion, it being necessary to serve two formal notices; 38 informal notices were served.

All complaints of nuisances are fully investigated and action taken where necessary. A number of complaints turn out to be abortive. In one such case where the householder complained of an offensive smell much time was spent in visiting by various Officers without being able to find any nuisance. In view of the householder's continued insistence, an investigation of the air in the house was undertaken by the Public Analyst with negative results. This case is described to show that every effort is taken to resolve any complaint.

5. Petroleum Consolidated Act, 1928

The Public Health Inspectors are the responsible figures in connection with this Act.

Forty-seven licences were issued during the year for the storage of 98,260 gallons of petrol. Two licences were issued for the storage of 2,070 tons of calcium carbide. One licence has been issued for six gallons of naphtha.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA
General Summary

TABLE 5

	No. of Inspections	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Notice	Legal Proceedings & General Remarks
Housing	...	1783	61	2	175
Drainage	...	901	5	—	5
Water Supply	...	80	2	—	2
Factories	...	204	5	—	5
Tents and Vans, etc.	...	150	3	—	3
Food Premises	...	2860	17	—	17
Food Inspections	...	1240	5	—	5
Keeping of Animals	...	132	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations.	Clean Air Act	22	1	—	1
Rodent Control, etc.	...	60	8	—	8
Infestations	...	806	—	—	—
Infectious Disease and Poisons	...	250	—	—	—
Food Vehicles and Stalls.	...	172	—	—	—
Pet Animals Act	...	96	—	—	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	24	—	—	—
Improvement Grants	...	283	1	—	5
TOTALS		10659	108	2	226

Summary of Works carried out

TABLE 6

Defective fire bars	...	...	...	2
,, drains	...	...	...	4
,, roofs	...	...	...	18
,, yard surfaces		...	...	3
,, doors	...	...	...	6
,, floors	...	...	...	4
,, ceiling plaster		...	...	6
,, window frames		...	...	6
,, eaves, gutters, etc.	...	...	...	9
,, W.C.	...	...	...	16
,, kitchen ranges		...	...	4
,, chimney stacks		...	...	5
,, pointing	...	...	...	9
,, wallplaster		...	...	12
,, waste pipes		...	...	2
Broken chamber cover		...	..	1
Dampness	..	...	...	11
Defective hot water cylinder	..	...	...	1
,, soil pipe	...	...	...	1
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	5
Water supply	...	...	...	1

TABLE 7

6. Rats & Mice (Prevention and Damage by Pests Act, 1949)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I.					
Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	105	13,936	1,102	15,143	176
II.					
Number of properties inspected as a result of notification ...	—	313	37	350	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by—					
Common rat:					
Major	—	1	5	6	—
Minor	—	228	24	252	—
House mouse—Minor ...	—	87	10	97	—
III.					
Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act ..	50	—	—	50	4
Number of such properties found to be infested by—					
Common rat:					
Major	7	—	—	7	4
Minor	41	—	—	41	4
House mouse—Minor ...	2	—	—	2	—
V.					
Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections ...	83	588	135	806	12
VI.					
Number of infested properties (in "above sections") ...	50	313	37	400	4
Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments ...	106	941	130	1177	4

The general condition of the area is reasonably satisfactory.

Leaflets illustrating methods for householders, and detailing the provisions of the Act, together with the Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks Regulations, 1950, are available from the Health Department.

7. Swimming Baths and Pools

There are two Public Swimming Baths in the District—Lambton Baths and Birtley—the latter being uncovered.

Both use mains water and have filtration and chlorination plants.

Twelve samples were taken at the baths, all being satisfactory.

8. Disinfestation, Eradiction of Bed Bugs, Flies, Red Mite, etc.

315 treatments were carried out during the year, including those for infestations with red mite.

These latter have been of particular nuisance on new housing estates. In certain cases the treatment has had to be persistent over a long period before eradication was achieved.

9. Atmospheric Pollution

No further action was taken during the year with regard to Smoke Control Areas.

Action regarding individual premises was taken by the Public Health Inspectors where required.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written notice	Occupied piers
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	125	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Authority	73	410	—	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	29	398	—	—
TOTAL ...	113	933	—	—

11. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963 contains provisions, some of which came into force in 1964, and others become operative later.

The tables below indicate the premises and personnel affected, and the extent to which it has been possible for the Public Health Inspectors, who have been designated as the Officers under the Act, to carry out inspections during 1964.

TABLE A—

Offices	...	...	...	40
Wholesale shops, etc.	...	..	5	
Retail shops	..	...	196	
Catering establishments	...	...	42	
				—
Total		283		—

TABLE B—

Number of visits of Inspectors to registered premises	283
---	-----	-----	-----

TABLE C (Persons Employed)—

Offices	...	...	...	1435
Retail shops	...	...	...	549
Wholesale shops and warehouses	...	...	84	
Catering establishments open to the Public	...	...	229	
Fuel storage depot	...	...	—
Canteens	...	...	29	
				—
Total		2326		—

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Housing statistics for the year are given below; firstly showing action taken during the year with regard to existing properties; secondly figures for completion of new houses, and lastly allocation of houses.

Housing Statistics

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

A—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	61
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after serving formal notices						2
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...					—

B—Proceedings under section 16 and 17 of the Housing Act 1957:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	64
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in respect of pursuance of Demolition Orders	...			155
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which a Closing Order was made	...	...	..	2

New Houses

Building of Council houses commenced in 1947 after the War,
and the following is the progress:

TABLE 8

	1947	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	Total
New Permanent Houses (including Flats)	1188		274	145	218	335	90	32	38	102	266	146	55	2889
Temporary Houses	...	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101
Relets	...	465	139	118	102	84	68	104	112	70	195	205	206	1867
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1754	413	263	320	419	158	136	150	172	461	351	260	4857	

Allocation of Houses During the Year List

A	Direct Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	42
B	Length of time married and living in	...	...	...	...	63
C	Dangerous property	...	...	...	...	—
	M.O.H. recommendation	...	...	...	...	28
	Homeless or Eviction	...	...	...	...	13
	Condemned property	...	...	...	...	69
	Aged persons' list	...	...	...	...	38
	Single persons' list	...	...	...	...	1
	Council resolutions	...	...	...	...	6
						—
						260
						—

In addition to the above there were 133 transfers and exchanges granted, involving 178 families, largely relieving overcrowding, on health grounds, economic reasons, and to place people nearer to work.

The figures showing the allocation of houses during the year have been supplied by the Housing Manager.

New Houses in the District

During the year there were 55 new Council Houses completed in the district.

Private houses completed in the district numbered 316.

Re-housing from Condemned Property

There was a considerable fall in the number of families re-housed from condemned properties during 1964. This has, of course, been related to the number of new houses available, which was much smaller than for the previous year.

The figures since 1954 are given below, showing a total of 916 rehoused from condemned property.

1954	...	...	...	12
1955	...	...	...	86
1956	...	...	...	57
1957	...	...	...	228
1958	...	...	...	95
1959	...	...	...	5
1960	...	...	...	3
1961	...	...	...	96
1962	...	...	...	195
1963	...	...	...	120
1964	...	...	...	69
<hr/>				
Total for 11 years	...	...	...	916

Condemnation of Unfit Houses

The total number of houses condemned during the year was as under:—

Individual unfit 64

Figures for the past eleven years are given below:—

Year.	Number of individual houses condemned		
1954	17
1955	50
1956	120
1957	211
1958	30
1959	106
1960	86
1961	210
1962	63
1963	66
1964	64
<hr/>			
	1023	147	Clearance Areas (1959, 1962 and 1963)
Total	...	1170	<hr/>

Improvement Grants

The number of improvement grants given by the Council showed a further rise during the year. The total grants made was 189 as compared with 154 for 1963.

Grants agreed since the scheme started as follows:—

	1956-59	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	Total
Discretionary Grants ..	... 60	9	30	71	67	78	315
Standard Grants ..	... 70	113	96	98	87	111	575
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	150	122	126	169	154	189	890
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The figure of approximately 3,500 houses without fixed baths in the Rural District was published in the 1961 Census Report. This figure at the end of 1964 would be below 2,000, having regard to improvements and demolition of unfit property.

Of these 2,000, about 400 are in the slum clearance programme for the period up to 1969, and it is hoped that the National Coal Board will, in the near future, be improving about 400 houses which lack essential amenities.

Medical Priority Rehousing

Cases investigated claiming medical priority for rehousing numbered 96.

The results of the investigations were as follows:—

Grounds for claiming priority	T.B.	Other Diseases
-------------------------------	------	----------------

Number recommended for Re-Housing to the Housing Committee ..	...	4	30
Number granted priority rehousing ..	...	3	30

Caravans

Number of licensed residential caravan sites: Six.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

On the register at 31st December, 1963—

(a) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Dairies (not dairy farms)	2
---------------------------	-----	-----	---

The Licensing Authority for designated milk is now the County Council. Samples are taken by the County Inspectors for testing to see if the milk conforms to the necessary standard.

Ice Cream

Premises registered for Ice Cream and Storage: 158.

Sampling of ice cream during the year produced the following results:—

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	45
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	<u>—</u>
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	1
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	<u>—</u>

These samples were almost all pre-wrapped ice cream, manufactured outside the district.

Food Premises

There are 295 food premises in the district, classified as under:

Number of Other Food Premises in the Area

Restaurants and Canteens	...	...	...	...	11
Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	3

Shops

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
General Dealers/Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Licensed Premises (Hotels and Bars, including Workmen's Clubs)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
								295

Premises manufacturing Sausages, Potted Meats and Preserved Foods number 63.

The table below gives details of the animals killed in the district, and of the meat condemned as unfit for human consumption.

MEAT INSPECTION

Number of licensed slaughterhouses	...	1
Number of licensed slaughtermen	...	2

Only one slaughterhouse now operates in the district. There were 762 animals slaughtered here during the year, and all carcases were inspected. Although the Council may now make a charge for these inspections it was decided by the Council not to do so.

TABLE 9

Carcasses and Offal and condemned in whole or in part

		<i>Cattle</i> <i>excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows Calves and Pigs</i>		<i>Sheep</i> <i>Lambs</i>	<i>Horses</i>	
No. killed (if known) ...	...	250	48	—	424	157	—
No. inspected ...	...	230	48	—	424	157	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i> —							
Whole carcases condemned . .		—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...		32	7	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis a n d cysticerci ...	...	..	13.9	14.5	—	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only</i> —							
Whole carcases condemned ...		—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...		—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis ...		—	—	—	—	—	—

The following meat and other foods were condemned and dealt with in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Food:—

			lbs.	ozs.
Bovine liver	...	...	458	0
Bruised beef	...	...	124	0
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			582	0
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Total: 5 cwt. 1st. 8lb.

Other foods:—

Tinned meat	...	...	897	12
Tinned vegetables	...	...	306	12
Tinned fruit	...	...	584	8
Tinned milk	...	...	54	4
Tinned soup	...	...	63	6
Tinned rice	...	...	13	4
Tinned milk puddings	...	...	5	12
Tinned fish	...	...	22	0
Tinned eggs	...	...	28	0
Cheese spread	...	...	56	8
Jam	...	...	43	0
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			2075	2
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Total: 18 cwt. 4st. 3lb. 2oz.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifications of infectious diseases fell from 612 in 1963 to 284 in 1964, mainly due to a reduction in measles notifications.

Scarlet Fever

There were 51 cases notified during the year—a figure that was last superseded in 1958.

The cases were in the main very light.

Diphtheria

1964 was the ninth successive year without any notifications.

Immunisations against Diphtheria

Most of the children protected against diphtheria receive the combined vaccine for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

The figures for immunisation against diphtheria during the year were as under:—

Primary injections—

0-5 years	...	...	537
Over 5 years	...	...	279
		Total	816

Boosters	707
----------	-----	-----	-----

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1964:—

Under 5 years	...	...	1,895
Over 5 years	...	...	4,252
		Total	6147

Poliomyelitis

One notification was received during the year—the last time a case occurred was in 1958.

The case concerned was quite mild and non-paralytic in type.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Most of the vaccination against poliomyelitis is now carried out by the oral vaccine. Parents were more in favour of having their children protected when they know no 'pricks' are necessary.

The figures for the year are as follows:—

Primary:

Children under 2 years	...	129
Persons from 2-20 years	...	102
Others	...	49
		280

Boosters done 109

Measles

Notifications fell from 478 in 1963 to 127 this year. The bulk of these cases were in the last two months of the year, and really represented the beginning of the next 'Measles Year 1965'.

NOTIFICATION OF MEASLES

No. of Cases	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Cases ..	643	41	868	10	566	31	681	27	478	127

Whooping Cough

18 cases were notified in 1964—the figure for 1963 was 16. Figures for the past 10 years are as follows:—

NOTIFICATION OF WHOOPING COUGH

No. of Cases	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Cases ...	191	123	160	91	53	64	31	13	16	18

Whooping Cough Immunisation

The increased use of 'triple vaccine' has improved the position regarding children protected against this disease. Figures for 1964 are as under:—

Primary—				
0-5 years ...	.	...	528	
Over 5 years ..	..	...	17	
		Total ...	545	—

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

During the year vaccination against smallpox in the district was as follows:—

Primary—				
Under 1 year ...	...	...	65	
Over 1 year... ..	...	...	144	
		Total ...	209	—
Re-vaccinations .....	...	...	56	

Food Poisoning

There was one major outbreak of food poisoning during the year. This followed a dinner-dance in an adjoining district, which resulted in a large number of notifications in the Chester-le-Street Rural Area.

The Health Department concerned was able to trace the source of the outbreak to some of the food served at the meal.

1963 brought typhoid fever into the news by an outbreak in South Shields. 1964 brought this disease into the headlines by the outbreak in Aberdeen.

This outbreak involved the Health Department (as was the case throughout the country) in a search for suspected tins of corned beef.

TUBERCULOSIS (Primary)

There were four deaths from tuberculosis in 1964 as compared with three in 1963.

New notifications numbered 10—8 males and 2 females.

Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS DUE TO PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

No. of Cases ...	1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964									
	Deaths ..	7	5	6	5	5	3	3	1	3	4

CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT B.C.G. Vaccination

B.C.G.

Given below are the figures for the last scheme carried out in the district.

Schoolchildren

This has now been carried out in Birtley since 1955—the tenth year. In the rest of the district 1964 was the ninth year

School	Number Tuberculin Tested	Number Positive	Per cent Positive	Number Vaccinated
Birtley R.C. Senior School	... 17	—	—	15
Birtley George Street Mod.	... 41	1	2.44	33
Birtley East Modern	... 92	6	6.09	78
Fatheld Modern	... 40	2	5.00	33
Sacriston Modern	... 45	—	—	42
Fencehouses Modern	... 78	5	6.41	67
Pelton Roseberry Modern	... 61	4	6.55	50
Pelton Modern	... 48	3	6.25	40
Birtley South Modern	... 108	9	8.33	91
TOTALS	530	30	5.6	449

Mass X-Ray

The figures below show the results of the visits made by the Mass Radiography Unit to the district during 1964.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION

	Male	Female	Total
No. X-rayed—miniature films	... 1559	586	2145
No. recalled to Chest Clinic	... 48	17	60
Abnormalities Revealed—			
Tuberculosis	... 2	1	3
Other conditions	... 97	15	112

TABLE 10.

Age at Death.		1964	%
Under 1 year ...	...	23	5.5
1-4 years ...	...	—	—
5-14 years ...	...	2	0.5
15-24 years ...	...	6	1.4
25-34 years ...	...	10	2.3
35-44 years ...	...	11	2.4
45-54 years ...	...	36	8.3
55-64 years ...	...	84	19.2
65-74 years ...	...	121	27.7
75 and upwards ...	...	144	32.9
Total ...			100.0%

TABLE 11

**STATISTICS OF THE 15 PARISHES FORMING THE
CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT.**

	Pop. 1961 Census	Acreage (acres)	Total No. of Inhabited Houses	No. of Council Houses	Deaths
Biddick South	...	29	348	10	...
Birtley	...	10880	1429	3772	1996 125
Bournmoor	...	1818	513	794	224 16
Edmondsley	...	1239	2099	399	230 14
Harraton	...	3565	2669	1280	377 24
Lambton	...	75	697	28	... 4
Lamesley	...	4206	5679	1336	603 29
Lumley Great	...	2426	1642	887	507 20
Lumley Little	...	1183	875	376	10 23
Ouston	...	1181	641	685	271 9
Pelton	...	5880	926	1941	788 87
Plawsworth	...	1570	1248	442	248 4
Sacriston	...	4871	910	1548	629 53
Urpeth	...	1694	1825	555	107 22
Waldridge	...	552	725	172	... 7
	41169	22226	14225	5990	437

TABLE 12.
Infectious Disease Notifications since 1955.

DISEASE	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Food Poisoning	2	...	1	...	...	...	2	3	2	43
Smallpox	29	24	57	18	9	3	10	51
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	...
Diphtheria
Enteric Fever	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	1
Meningococcal Infection	...	2	1	1	1	1	4	1	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	48	24	66	39	34	35	32	15
Pneumonia	...	2	1	2	1	3	2	1	...	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	2	1	...	1	2
Erysipelas	1	2	1	...	1	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	18	8	19	12	6	2	...	...
Dysentery	30	23	24	41	22	6	6	8
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	...	2	5	5	3	2	5	10	25	10
" Non-pulmonary	643	41	868	10	566	31	681	2	1	3
Measles	...	123	160	91	53	64	31	27	478	127
Whooping Cough	191	...	...	...	...	...	13	16	18	18
Malaria	10	10	10	17	6	5	11	7
†Diagnosis not confirmed

Due to Quarterly Infectious Return

TABLE 14.
CANCER DEATHS 1964 (AGE GROUPS AND SITES.)

Age Group	Lung																						
	Stomach			Intestines except Rectum			Trachea, Lungs & ETI.			Breast			Uterus & Ovaries			Prostate			All others				
Under 1 yr.	M.	F.	M.	M.	F.	M.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	M.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	M.	M.	M.	F.	M.	
1-4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5-14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15-24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25-34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35-44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45-54	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	...
55-64	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	7	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	...
65-74	...	...	...	7	2	1	2	...	6	...	3	...	3	...	2	...	2	1	...	3	...	2	...
75 & up	...	...	2	1	...	2	...	2	...	3	...	3	...	3	...	2	...	2	1	...	2	...	1
TOTAL...	1	0	12	6	1	2	4	...	17	1	6	2	2	2	8	14	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

N.B. Group Nos. refer to Intermediate List of 150 causes (International Classification)

TABLE 15

The following table gives the vital statistics of the district for 1964 and previous years:

Year	Estimated Resident Population Mid-Year	Births		Deaths		Infant Mortality Rate †	Maternal Mortality Rate ‡
		No.	Crude Rate*	No.	Crude Rate*		
1955	41,160	613	14.9	431	10.5	51	0.00
1956	41,160	629	15.8	485	11.8	28	4.50
1957	41,120	661	16.1	467	11.4	38	1.46
1958	41,240	631	15.3	480	11.6	33	0.00
1959	41,550	666	16.0	444	10.7	38	0.00
1960	41,890	676	16.1	443	10.7	22	0.00
1961	41,240	687	16.6	453	10.9	23	0.00
1962	41,980	763	18.1	450	10.7	21	0.00
1963	43,090	751	17.1	502	11.7	23	0.00
1964	43,590	834	18.3	437	10.0	27	0.00

* Per 1,000 population. (total.)

† Per 1,000 live births. (registered.)

‡ Per 1,000 (live and still) births (registered.)

Table Showing changes in Certain Vital Statistics over a period

TABLE 16.

		1896	1921	1964
Population	...	58,000	71,580	43,590
Births	...	2,157	2,298	834
Crude Birth Rate	...	38.09	31.82	18.3
Deaths	...	1,083	851	437
Crude Death Rate	...	19.00	13.03	10.0
Infant Deaths	...	394	270	23
Infant Mortality Rate	...	128	117	27
Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases	...	212	126	—
Scarlet Fever Cases	...	553	378	51
Typhoid Fever Cases	...	108	6	—
Diphtheria Cases	...	57	130	—

TABLE 17

New cases and mortality from Tuberculosis during 1964:—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-4 ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5-14 ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15-24 ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
25-34 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35-44 ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45-54 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55-64 ...	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
65-74 ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
75 & over ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	8	2	...	2	4	...	...	...

TABLE 18

Notifications and deaths occurring in the Rural District during the past five years:

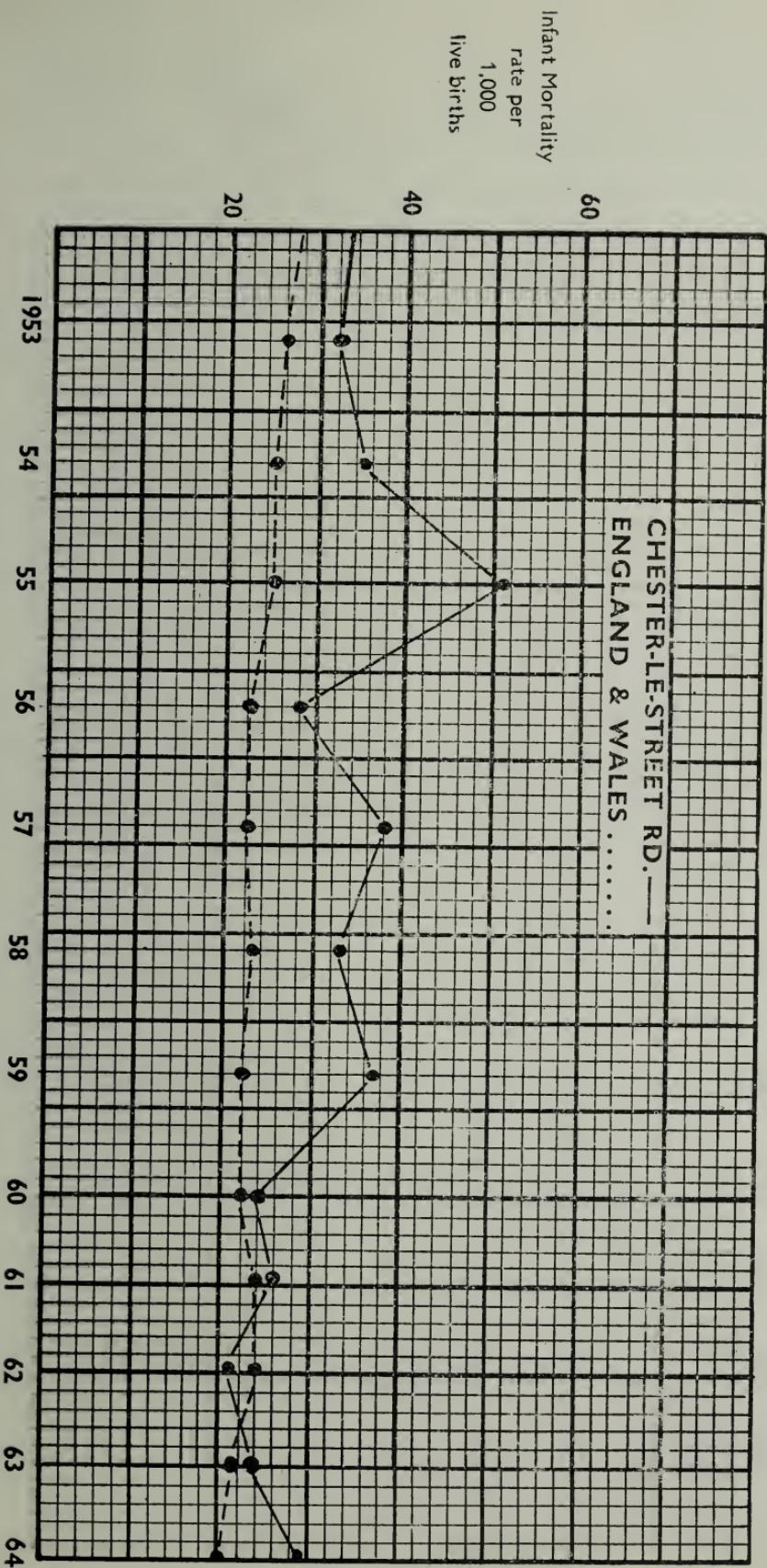
Year	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary	
	Notifications	Deaths	Notifications	Deaths
1960	26	3	5
1961	10	3	2
1962	25	2	1
1963	13	3	3
1964	10	4	2

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register were as follows:

	December 31st, 1960	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
		M.	F.	M.	F.	
	...	167	149	19	39	374
	...	102	84	16	24	226
	...	114	87	15	22	238
	...	123	89	17	24	253
	...	118	83	16	23	240

* 5.5 per 1,000 civilian population.

INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1953 - 1964



PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE—1953-1964

